

Serial Number 10/057,091
Art Unit 1734

REMARKS

1. Claims 1-5, 8, 9, 12, 13, 15-19, 22, and 23 are canceled without prejudice to the subsequent filing of a continuation application.

2. Claims 6, 7, 10, 11, 14, 20, 21, and 24 are now pending in this case.

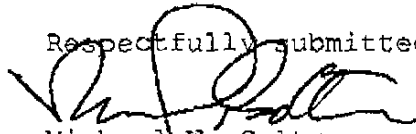
3. Independent claim 6 has been amended to include the limitations of objected to dependent claim 9 and intervening dependent claim 8. Independent claim 11 has been amended to include the limitations of objected to dependent claim 13 and intervening dependent claim 2. Independent claim 20 has been amended to include the limitations of objected to dependent claim 23 and intervening dependent claim 22. Claims 10, 14, and 24 are amended for proper dependency. Accordingly, all claims now pending in this case are believed to be in condition for allowance.

4. Applicant submits that the invention disclosed and claimed in the present application is not taught by any of the references of record, taken either alone, or in combination. Allowance of the present application is in order and respectfully requested.

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5. Examiner's thorough and thoughtful consideration of this application is sincerely appreciated. Should there be any remaining issues, Examiner is cordially invited to telephone the undersigned for a speedy resolution.

Respectfully submitted,



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